

Who We Are



BCI's **Safe Zone** Ally Program

Statement of Purpose

The Bridgeway Center Inc. (BCI) **Safe Zone** Ally Program will serve to identify, enlist, and educate allies who will support, treat and advocate for the LGBTIQ community. This will be accomplished by training members of BCI staff and our community who wish to become more knowledgeable and accepting of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, or questioning persons. Our goal is to reduce the incidence of heterosexism, transphobia and homophobia in our community through education, thereby promoting a safer and more open community for all.

Where You Can Find Us

Locations:

137 Hospital Drive
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
(850)833-7500

299 Railroad Avenue
Crestview, FL 32536
(850)689-7810

Website:

www.BridgewayCenter.org

Social Media:

[Facebook.com/
BridgewayCenterInc](https://www.facebook.com/BridgewayCenterInc)

Email:

safezone@bridgeway.org



Mission Statement

"To support, treat and advocate for individuals who are oppressed, marginalized, and silenced due to their sexual orientation and identity."

Why We Do What We Do

LGBTIQ adults are **more than twice as likely** as heterosexual adults to experience a mental health condition.

LGBTIQ people are at a **higher risk** than the general population for suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts.

High school students who identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual are almost **five times as likely** to attempt suicide compared to their heterosexual peers.

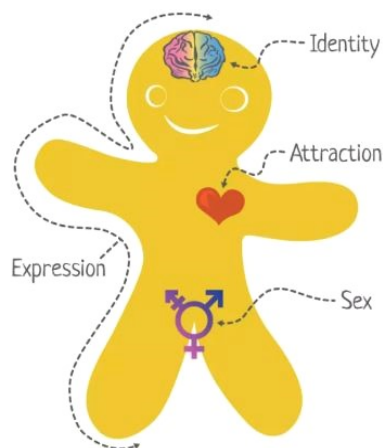
48% of all **transgender** adults report that they have considered suicide in the past 12 months, compared to **4%** of the **overall US population**.

The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) found that **15%** of LGBQ adults **had an alcohol or drug use disorder** in the past year, compared to **8%** of heterosexual adults.

Transgender and intersex youth are nearly **four times as likely** than their non-transgender peers to experience depression.

What We Teach

The Genderbread Person v4 by its pronounced METROsexual



- ◆ Core Vocabulary
- ◆ Coming Out Guide
- ◆ LGBTIQ Umbrella
- ◆ LGBTIQ Do's & Don'ts

When and Where We Train

The **Safe Zone Ally** training classes for the community are based on demand. In other words, you tell us when you can train and we will be there! The training lasts around 2 to 3 hours depending on class size.

Training is available on-site at our main Bridgeway locations or we can travel to you. Please contact us at any time to sign your group up for training!

How You Can Learn More

Asexual Visibility and Education Network
www.asexuality.org

Bisexual.org
www.bisexual.org

Everyday Feminism
www.everydayfeminism.com

Get Real
www.getrealeducation.org

It's Pronounced Metrosexual
www.itspronouncedmetrosexual.com

Salacious
www.salaciousmagazine.com

Soul Force
www.soulforce.org

TransWhat?
www.transwhat.org

We Are The Youth
www.wearetheyouth.org

Crisis Resources

Trevor Hotline:

"If you're thinking about suicide, you deserve immediate help." Call 1-866-488-7386 or text "TREVOR" to 1-202-304-1200

Trans Lifeline:

"A peer support service run by trans people, for trans and questioning callers." Call 1-877-565-8860 (United States) or 1-877-330-6366 (Canada)